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CLASSidCATION கண்ணும் CENTRAL INTERESTRICTED information report

REPORT	

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COUNTRY

China

DATE DISTR. 24 Sept 1948

SUBJECT

Economi c

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PLACE ACQUIRED

Shang-hai, China

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION FOR THE RESEARCH USE OF TRAINED INTELLIGENCE ANALYSTS

SOURCE

Chinese document, Shang-hai Shih Luo-kung Nien-chien (Shang-hai Labor Yearbook), 1948. (Information specifically requested.)

LABOR_HANAGEMENT DISPUTES

In 1947 there were 1,955 disputes between employer and employe, the highest number coming in June, after wages were unfrozen. Of these disputes, 114 resulted in strikes; the other 1,861 were settled otherwise. Persons involved numbered 446,148. There was a loss of 193,395 working days.

Factors in the disputes were: contracts, wages, hours, tenure, treatment, regulations, stoppage of work, etc. The disputes were most frequent, and also the most quickly settled, in the textile industries, where the lurgest number of workers were employed.

Of the total number of disputos, by far the majority, 1,769, were in Chinese-Owned plants. Next came British plants with 90, American 52, French 11, Soviet 14, and all others 19.

There were three peak periods in the course of labor disputes in 1947. The first came in January and was concerned with the year-end (TH: native lonar year is probably meant) bonus. This was fixed by the city government at a month's wage. A number of adjustments, considering the interests of both capital and labor had to be mone. On the whole the many disputes were settled amicably.

A second peak cume in June after wages were unfrozen. Removal of blanket

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restrictions gave opportunity for endless pressuring and bargaining. In general, agreements were made for higher wages and longer hours, with the previous month's cost-of-living index as the basis. By the end of June conditions had become normal again.

The third peak came in September, with a series of Communist-fomented strikes in the public utilities. These were settled through government mediation.

III

Causes of the 1947 disputes lay along two correlated lines, economic and political. Purely economic conflicts were utilized by elements that wanted to sease political power. Political agitation petered economic discontent and struggles for better conditions. The Communists were guilty on both these counts.

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